IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): S.H. Maes et al.
Case: YOR919990542US1
Serial No.: 09/776,654 ✓
Filing Date: February 5, 2001
Group: 2174
Examiner: Steven Paul Sax

Title: System and Method for Multi-Modal Focus Detection,
           Referential Ambiguity Resolution and Mood Classification
           Using Multi-Modal Input

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19 and 22-38 of the above-identified application were allowed on June 3, 2005. In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, Applicants submit the following comments.

Applicants initially note that the Examiner omitted certain meaningful language from his Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Presented below are the Examiner's statements incorporating the omitted claim language by underline that the Applicants believe should have been provided. Also, the "strike-through" text should be deleted.

The amendment filed 2/24/05, in light of applicants' comments, places the application into condition for allowance by incorporating into all of the independent claims that the intent determination comprises resolving referential ambiguity associated with the <u>one or more</u>

user(s) and the one or more device(s) in the environment based on at least a portion of the received multi-modal data.

. . .

4 amended - system, . . . wherein the execution of ~~the~~ one or more actions in the environment ~~effects the~~ comprises controlling at least one of the one or more devices in the environment to at least one of effectuate the determined intent, effect the determined focus, and effect the determined mood of the one or more users.

5 amended - system, . . . wherein the execution of ~~the~~ one or more actions ~~controls~~ in the environment comprises controlling at least one of the one or more devices in the environment to request further user input to assist in making at least one of the determinations.

6 amended - system, . . . wherein the execution of the one or more actions ~~initiates~~ comprises initiating a process to at least one of further complete, ~~or~~ correct, ~~or~~ and disambiguate what the system understands from previous input.

7 amended - system, . . . wherein the at least one processor is further configured to ~~abstracts~~ the received multi-modal input data into one or more events prior to making the one or more determinations.

8 amended - system, . . . wherein the at least one processor is further configured to ~~performs~~ one or more recognition operations on the received multi-modal input data prior to making the one or more determinations.

9 amended ~~= system with features of both claims 7 amended and 8 amended~~. 10 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 1 amended~~. 13 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 4 amended~~. 14 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 5 amended~~. 15 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 6 amended~~. 16 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 7 amended~~. 17 amended ~~= method corresponding to claim 7 amended~~. 18 amended - machine readable medium ~~corresponding to claim 1 amended~~. 19 amended - system ~~like claim 1 amended and specifying~~ . . . including at least ~~the~~ audio-based data and image-based data.

29 amended - system like claim 19 amended wherein the execution of ~~the~~ one or more actions ~~controls~~ in the environment comprises controlling at least one of the one or more devices in the environment to ~~effects~~ at least one of effectuate the determined intent, effect the determined focus, and effect the determined mood of the one or more users.

30 amended - system like claim 19 amended wherein the execution of ~~the~~ one or more actions ~~controls~~ in the environment comprises controlling at least one of the one or more devices in the environment to request further user input to assist in making at least one of the determinations.

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31 amended - system like claim 19 amended wherein the <u>at least one</u> processor <u>is further configured to</u> abstracts the received <u>multi-modal</u> input <u>data</u> into one or more events prior to making the <u>one or more</u> determinations.

32 amended - system like claim 19 amended wherein the <u>at least one</u> processor <u>is further configured to</u> performs <u>one or more</u> recognition operations on the <u>received multi-modal</u> input <u>data</u> prior to making the <u>one or more</u> determinations.
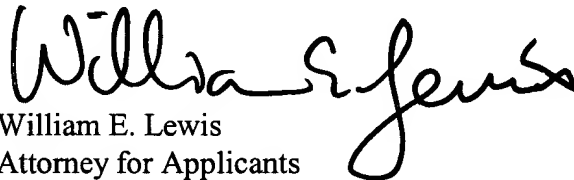
36 amended - system like claim 19 amended wherein the execution of the <u>one or more</u> actions <u>comprises initiating</u> ~~initiates~~ a process to <u>at least one of further</u> complete, ~~or~~ correct, <u>and</u> ~~or~~ disambiguate what the system understands from previous input.

37 amended - ~~system with features of both claims 31 amended and 32 amended~~.

38 amended - ~~method corresponding to claim 19 amended~~.

The language as edited above is consistent with the allowed claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance be revised in accordance with the language as set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 16, 2005

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